

APPENDIX A. All comments recieved by FWP on the proposed timber salvage project for Stuart Mill Bay FAS. Comments received via email (E) and mail (M).

Com- menter #	Via	Para- graph	Comment
1	E		I support Alternative B of the Stuart Mill Fishing Access Site Timber Salvage Project. With very few minor impacts, which all can be mitigated, I see no reason not to go thru with this project. These are the kind of proactive management projects that we should be doing to manage all FWP properties. Good Job!!!!
2a	E	1	I favor ANY cutting of trees and removal of ANY bark beetle or diseased trees ANYWHERE in the State of Montana.
		2	So, put me down as favoring this timber harvest project at Stuart Mill Bay and ANY other timber harvests.
		3	We need to cut healthy trees before they become infested with disease.
		4	We need to put our timber companies back in business.
2b	E		Just know that I support the harvesting of ALL natural resources within the limits of the law, including timber harvest, wildlife harvest, mineral harvest, etc.
3	E	1	I am very much in favor of the FWP's proposal to harvest the dead trees at Stuart Mill Bay. Many of the trees are very close to the road and are a safety hazard since they have been standing dead for so long. I am particularly concerned about a row of large dead trees on FWP property that is right along the west side of the road between Monaco's property and before the Bowman camp. There is a long row of very large trees that could be hazardous to people using the road. They have been dead for several years now. The dead trees are an eyesore as well, and I truly hope these will be removed too. As a ADLC Commissioner, I have had several calls requesting these trees be removed. I talked to Larry Sturm, the road dept. director at ADLC, but he stated they were on FWP property.
		2	There is considerable concern by residents in the area of the fire danger associated with the dead trees, killed by pine beetles over the last 5 years or so. While many private owners have gone to great expense to have their trees removed, government agencies have been slow to do so. There is a particular concern with fires that whould be fueled by the dead trees.
		3	I am very pleased to see this tree removal being considered, and am in total support of it.
4	M		See pg A-2: Granite County Commissioners
5	M		See pg A-3: DNRC, Anaconda Unit Office
6	E		By all means proceed with this operation. The fire and blow down danger all around the lake needs attention. Every area needs to be logged, thinned and cleaned up, so that new vegetation can begin. I live here year 'round and it is scarey in the dry and windy conditions.
7	E	1	I want to thank the FWP for working with the MT DNRC in actively managing your forested land not only Stuart Mill but other FWP land. This salvage sale not only reduces the risk of a stand replacement fire but also improves public safety. This sale will also provide opportunity for logging contractors and mills a much needed commercial product. I have fought fires in most of the states in the soutwest United States and they have limited ways to actively manage forested landscapes and one way is by fire. Now that the milliung infrastructure in these states are gone its either fire or a very coslty harvest.
		2	I do have several suggestions in regards to this project
		3	1) In talking with loggers the contract deadline for harvest from Nov 30-Feb 1 needs to be longer. Not that a mechanical logging contrator cant get this job done in 3 month time frame but this sale by the time its bid out limits the number of loggers willing to bid because of short operating time. By allowing a longer time frame for harvest or an extension would increase the number of bidders and generate more revenue for FWP.
		4	2) I would suggest trying a conservative thinning in areas of fir/lodgepole stand and removing dead logdepole pine. This would still allow enough crown cover and allow a few mosiac thinnings in select areas.
		5	Again thank you FWP for active management of your forested land.

**Office of
The Board of County Commissioners
Granite County**

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Maureen Connor, Commissioner
P O Box 6
Philipsburg MT 59858

Scott C. Adler, Commissioner
750 Frontage Road West
Drummond MT 59832

October 15, 2012

Mack Long, Regional Supervisor
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula MT 59804

Dear Supervisor Long:

Please be advised that the Board of Granite County Commissioners supports the proposal to conduct a forest salvage operation at the Stuart Mill Bay Fishing Access Site as described in your letter of October 5, 2012.

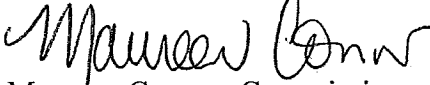
We enthusiastically support your plan to improve this area in Deer Lodge County with a healthy forest which is safe for public use. As Georgetown Lake is of vital economic benefit to both Deer Lodge and Granite Counties, we feel that this plan is of outstanding benefit to both counties.

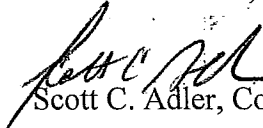
Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed project.

Sincerely yours,

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF GRANITE COUNTY


Clifford Nelson, Chairman


Maureen Connor, Commissioner


Scott C. Adler, Commissioner

cc: Anaconda-Deer Lodge County Commission

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL
RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



BRIAN SCHWEITZER, GOVERNOR

STATE OF MONTANA

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ANACONDA UNIT OFFICE
1300 Maguire Road
Anaconda, MT 59711

Sharon Rose
Montana Department of Fish Wildlife & Parks
3201 Spurgin Road
Missoula Montana 59804

RECEIVED
OCT 19 2012

Dear Ms. Rose,

BY:

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Stuart Mill Bay Timber Salvage sale. The ongoing infestation of Mountain Pine Beetles has had significant impacts on local, private, federal and state forests. The current infestation has caused a high level of mortality in the lodgepole pine forests which dominate the local landscape. A substantial amount of work has been completed on private land immediately adjacent to the lake in an effort to reduce the fire hazard for individuals and improvements. Your proposed sale will add a sizable number of acres to the fuels reduction efforts in the Georgetown area, improving the defensibility of adjacent ownerships. In addition, harvesting forest products will provide jobs for local loggers and mill workers. It is obvious that your proposal has been well thought out, implementing mitigation measures for potential impacts to wildlife and soil disturbance. These mitigation measures have included the retention of patches of trees for wildlife habitat, locating road to reduce the amount of soil disturbance and restricting the season of use to reduce the potential for soil compaction. Harvesting of the timber will cause some changes to the viewshed for the near term, but as the harvest units regenerate, these changes will be softened.

Fish Wildlife and Parks should be applauded for realizing the value of harvesting in the management of forested ecosystem and how this tool can be used to manipulate vegetative communities to benefit wildlife over the long term while generating revenues to assist the Department with achieving other wildlife goals.

DNRC is responsible for providing fire protection for your property as well as thousands of other forested acres in the Georgetown Lake area. Your sale, along with the work already accomplished by private landowners and roadside harvesting accomplished by the USFS will help future suppression efforts in the area.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Fred Staedler".

Fred Staedler
Montana DNRC
Anaconda Unit Manager
1300 Maguire Road
Anaconda Montana 59711